

REPORTS

FROM

HER MAJESTY'S DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES ABROAD

RESPECTING THE

PAYMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE IN EUROPE,
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND EGYPT.

Presented to the House of Lords by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1893.

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Reports from Her Majesty's Diplomatic Representatives abroad
respecting the Payment of Members of the Legislature in
Europe, United States of America, and Egypt.

Circular addressed to certain of Her Majesty's Representatives abroad.

My Lord,

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 15, 1893.

IN conformity with an Address of the House of Commons, I have to request you to furnish me with a Return, for presentation to Parliament, showing, with respect to the country in which you reside, whether payment of Members of the Legislature obtains, and, if so, the amounts or scale of such payment, and whether it includes, or whether there is in addition thereto, any allowance for travelling expenses, or the privilege of free passes on the railways of that country.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROSEBERRY.

Replies to preceding Circular.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

No. 1.

Sir A. Paget to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 27.)

My Lord,

Vienna, March 25, 1893.

IN answer to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to state that in Austria Members of the Lower House of the Legislature are paid at the rate of 10 florins (about 16s. 8d.) for every day's attendance during the Session. They receive, in addition, an indemnity for travelling expenses calculated in proportion to the distance of their homes from the seat of the Legislature.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. PAGET.

No. 2.

Mr. Milbanke to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received April 4.)

Sir,

Budapest, March 30, 1893.

WITH reference to the Earl of Rosebery's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to report to your Excellency that, according to a Law just passed by the Hungarian Parliament, Members of the Lower House will now receive a fixed salary at the rate of 2,400 florins (200*l.*) a-year, together with an allowance for house-rent amounting to 800 florins (66*l.* 13*s.*), making a total of 280*l.* 13*s.*

The Law in question contains no provision for any further allowances, but the Minister of Commerce, in his capacity as Head of the Administration of State Railways, accords to Members the privilege of taking season tickets at a moderate rate (which are not issued to the general public on the State lines) for their journeys to and fro between the capital, their homes, and the districts they represent in Parliament. He, moreover, furnishes Deputies with certificates enabling them to travel over all the State lines in Hungary in one class higher than the ticket they pay for.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RALPH MILBANKE.

BAVARIA AND WÜRTENBERG.

No. 3.

Mr. Drummond to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 31.)

My Lord,

Munich, March 28, 1893.

IN accordance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith inclosed a Return showing the amount of payment to Bavarian Deputies, and their right to free passage over the State railways and allowance for travelling expenses. I shall have the honour to furnish

your Lordship also with a similar Return on the payment of Deputies in Würtemberg immediately after I receive an answer to the request I have made for information thereupon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) VICTOR DRUMMOND.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Article 36 of the Law of March 21, 1881, concerning the Election of Deputies to the Bavarian Parliament.

(Translation.)

DEPUTIES have the right of free passage over the railways administered by the Bavarian State, in accordance with Regulations laid down by Ministerial Order, during each Session of Parliament and the eight days preceding and following it; and also receive at the beginning and end of each such Session an allowance for travelling expenses of 50 pfennigs per kilometre for their journeys between the place of meeting of Parliament and their place of residence on all railways other than State railways, and on which arrangements for free transit cannot be made.

Every Deputy who does not actually live at the place of meeting of Parliament receives during the Session, including one day before and one day after such Session, a daily allowance of 10 marks.

Note.—By Decree, the above allowance has been suspended during the periods during which Deputies have leave of absence from the Sessions of Parliament.

No. 4.

Mr. Helyar to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received April 14.)

My Lord,

Munich, April 10, 1893.

WITH reference to Mr. Drummond's despatch of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a translation of a note, dated the 29th ultimo, but which reached Munich yesterday evening, from Baron von König, Acting Würtemberg Minister for Foreign Affairs, stating the legal Regulations in force for the payment of Members of the Würtemberg Parliament, and for their free journeys by rail.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. A. HELYAR.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Baron von König to Mr. Drummond.

(Translation.)

*Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stuttgart,
March 29, 1893.*

Sir,

IN reply to your note of the 21st instant concerning the payment of Members of the Würtemberg Legislature, I have the honour to convey to you the following information:—

The Members of the Legislature receive daily pay and journey money, but the Members of the Upper House (*i.e.*, the hereditary Members and those of the non-hereditary Members who live out of Stuttgart) only receive them on application (Law of the 20th June, 1821).

The daily pay consists of 9 m. 43 pf., which represents in current coin the value of the former ducal.

Members absent, with or without leave, receive no pay, but those absent on account of illness receive pay.

The Law of the 20th March, 1886, has regulated the payment of proxies by Government officials who are at the same time to be elected Deputies, either of the Knightly Order, or of the cities, or of the districts. Such officials (in the sense of Article 1 of the Law respecting officials of the 28th June, 1876) receive only 7 marks out of the regular daily pay of 9 m. 43 pf., while the remaining 2 m. 43 pf. is reserved to meet the expenses of the proxy while acting as such.

The indemnity for travelling expenses, so far as railways extend, is twice the amount of a second-class ticket, and where only diligences exist it is the double of one seat in a diligence, and for all other districts it is 1 m. 71 pf. per "poststunde," i.e., one hour's posting as usually computed. (See the Law of the 31st July, 1849, and Royal Decree of the 2nd July, 1848.) Members not residing in Stuttgart can, at their option, receive, in place of this indemnity, in districts where the State railways run, free passes between their place of residence and Stuttgart (to and fro) in any class they choose during the sittings of the Legislature to which they are elected, and of the Committees and Commissions, and also for two days before and subsequent to the Session or sittings of the Committees and Commissions. (See the decision of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the 14th January, 1876.)

The daily payment during the journey is measured by the time required to perform such journey; one full day reckoned at twenty-four hours.

The Presidents of the two Chambers receive indemnifications as Members of the Legislative Committee, which are paid during the Sessions of the Legislature: the President of the Upper House, including house-rent, receives 12,857 marks; the President of the Lower House, including house-rent, 8,571 marks; also the other Members of the Legislative Committee who have to be present in Stuttgart, each 3,085 m. 68 pf. These latter (four) Members of the Legislative Committee do not receive this indemnity during the sittings of the Legislature, but receive, on the other hand, during that period, the before-mentioned daily payment. (Law of the 20th June, 1821, paragraph 1, sections 3 and 4, and paragraph 2.)

I avail, &c.
(Signed) v. KÖNIG,
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs.

BELGIUM.

No. 5.

Sir E. Monson to the Earl of Rossberg.—(Received March 27.)

My Lord,

Brussels, March 25, 1893.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to inclose copy of a note which I received yesterday from the Count de Mérode Westerloo, transmitting copies of Article 52 of the Belgian Constitution, and of the Law of the 20th October, 1831, as to the payment of Deputies.

His Excellency adds that the Members of the Legislature are not entitled, as such, to travelling expenses nor to free railway passes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMUND MONSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Count de Mérode to Sir E. Monson.

M. le Ministre,

*Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, Bruxelles,
le 24 Mars, 1893.*

J'AI l'honneur de faire savoir à votre Excellence, en réponse à sa lettre du 16 de ce mois, que l'indemnité Parlementaire est déterminée en Belgique par l'Article 52 de la Constitution, et par la Loi du 20 Octobre, 1831.

Votre Excellence trouvera sous ce pli copie des dites dispositions.

Les Membres de la Législature n'ont droit ni à des frais de voyage, ni à des libres parcours sur les chemins de fer.

Veuillez, &c.
(Pour le Ministre),
Le Secrétaire-Général,
(Signé) Baron LAMBERMONT.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Brussels,
March 24, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, in reply to your letter of the 18th instant, that the allowance to Members of Parliament is fixed in Belgium by Article 52 of the Constitution and by the Law of the 20th October, 1831.

Your Excellency will find herewith copies of the above-mentioned provisions.

Members of the Legislature are not entitled to travelling expenses, nor to free passes on the railways.

Accept, &c.
(For the Minister),
(Signed) Baron LAMBERMONT,
Secretary-General.

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Article 52 of the Belgian Constitution.

CHACQUE Membre de la Chambre des Représentants jouit d'une indemnité mensuelle de 200 florins pendant toute la durée de la Session.

Ceux qui habitent la ville où se tient la Session ne jouissent d'aucune indemnité.

(Translation.)

EACH Member of the Chamber of Representatives is entitled to a monthly allowance of 200 florins during the whole period of the Session.

Those who reside in the town where the Session is held are entitled to no allowance at all.

Inclosure 3 in No. 5.

Belgian Law of October 20, 1831.

Article Unique.—L'indemnité mensuelle fixée par l'Article 52 de la Constitution commence à courir:—

(a.) Pour les Députés élus avant la Session, à dater du jour de l'ouverture des Chambres, s'ils prêtent serment dans les huit jours qui suivent la vérification de leurs pouvoirs.

S'ils ne prêtent pas serment dans ce délai, l'indemnité ne court qu'à dater du jour de la prestation du serment.

(b.) Pour les Députés élus pendant la durée d'une Session, l'indemnité leur est due à dater de la prestation de leur serment.

(Translation.)

Sole Article.—The monthly allowance established by Article 52 of the Constitution shall begin to run:—

(a.) In the case of Members elected before the Session, from the date of the opening of the Chambers, provided they are sworn within the eight days following the verification of their powers.

If they are not sworn within the above period, their allowance shall only run from the date of the day when they shall take the oath.

(b.) In the case of Members elected during the course of a Session, their allowance is due from the date of their taking the oath.

BULGARIA.

No. 6.

Mr. Dering to Foreign Office.—(Received March 27.)

Sir,

Sophia, March 22, 1893.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I requested the President of the National Assembly to be good enough to inform me what, if any, were the emoluments or allowances enjoyed by Deputies to the Sobranje in Bulgaria, and I have received the following information.

Each Deputy elected, with the exception of those elected for the Metropolis, receive 20 fr. (16s.) per day for the period during which the Session lasts; Deputies elected for the Metropolis, or those who have their domicile in the Metropolis, or in any other city where the National Assembly may hold its Session, receive 15 fr. (12s.) per day for the like period.

All Deputies not residing in the town in which the Sobranje holds its Assembly receive an allowance sufficient to cover their journey to and from the place of their actual residence to the town in which the Assembly meets.

This allowance is calculated at the rate of 60 centimes (6d.) per kilometre, or, in the event of the Deputy being able to attain his destination by rail or steam-boat, at the price of a first-class ticket. Deputies have no other privileges or allowances.

The President and Vice-Presidents of the Sobranje have, in addition to their pay as Deputies, and allowance for each Session, for "frais de représentation," or for entertainments and petty official expenses generally, amounting, for the President, to 3,000 fr. (120l.), and to 1,500 fr. (60l.) for each Vice-President.

In addition to this, the President has the right of travelling for the whole year, first class, gratis, on all lines belonging to the State, a free pass on all steamers, as well as the right of free communication by telegraph with all Government authorities, and with every Deputy on matters of public service.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY NEVILL DERING.

DENMARK.

No. 7.

Mr. Scott to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 23.)

My Lord,

Copenhagen, March 20, 1893.

IN compliance with the instructions of your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to report that the Members of both Chambers of the Danish Legislature (the Landsting and the Folkething) receive, in virtue of Article 99 of the Electoral Law of the 12th July, 1867, each an indemnity of 3 rixdalers (6s. 8d.) per diem during the actual Session of Parliament, and each Member, on presenting an account approved and attested by the President of the Chamber to which he belongs, is further reimbursed the amount of his actual travelling expenses to and from the capital.

Each Member of the Rigsdag is bound to receive this indemnity, and the only other allowance to which he is entitled is that of a free seat in the Royal Theatre.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES S. SCOTT.

EGYPT.

No. 8.

Lord Cromer to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received May 9.)

My Lord,

REFERRING to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th ultimo, requesting to be furnished with a Returo, for presentation to Parliament, showing, with respect to this country, whether payment of Members of the Legislature obtains, and, if so, the amounts or scale of such payment, I have the honour to state that I have received a note from Tigrane Pasha, copy of which is inclosed, giving details on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 8.

Tigrane Pasha to Lord Cromer.

Milord,

Le Caire, le 24 Avril, 1893.

DANS sa dépêche du 24 Mars dernier, votre Seigneurie a bien voulu me demander de la mettre à même de faire savoir à sa Seigneurie le Comte de Rosebery, si les Membres des Corps Législatifs en Égypte reçoivent une allocation et touchent, en dehors, d'autres frais de déplacement, &c.

J'ai, en conséquence, l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de votre Seigneurie, les renseignements suivants que vient de me fournir mon collègue des Finances, au sujet du Conseil Législatif et de l'Assemblée Générale, seuls Corps Législatifs existant dans ce pays.

Le Conseil Législatif comprend deux catégories de Membres :—

1. Le Président, le Vice-Président, douze Membres permanents, nommés par le Gouvernement, et le Délégué de la ville de Caire. Tous résident dans cette ville et reçoivent une indemnité de £ E. 90 par an pour frais de voiture.

2. Quinze Délégués nommés par les Gouvernorats* et Moudiriehs.† Il est alloué à chacun d'eux une indemnité de £ E. 250 annuellement pour frais de séjour au Caire. En outre, ils reçoivent une somme fixe, représentant pour chacun le prix de son voyage, aller et retour, une fois par mois, du lieu de sa résidence au Caire.

Ces allocations et frais de voyage, pour les deux catégories des Membres du Conseil Législatif, se montent par an à £ E. 5,367, et figurent au Budget de l'État de 1893, sous Titre II, Conseil Législatif, Article 3, Indemnités.

En ce qui concerne les Membres de l'Assemblée Générale, ils n'ont droit à aucune allocation fixe. Seulement, lorsqu'ils sont convoqués, leurs frais de transport en chemin de fer leur sont remboursés, et ils touchent de plus une indemnité de séjour au Caire pour huit jours, à raison de £ E. 1 par jour.

J'espère que ces renseignements seront de nature à satisfaire à la demande qui vous a été adressée par sa Seigneurie le Comte de Rosebery, et je me tiens entièrement à votre disposition pour toute information complémentaire.

Veuillez, &c.

(Signé) TIGRANE.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Cairo, April 24, 1893.

IN your despatch of the 24th March last, your Lordship requested me to enable you to inform the Earl of Rosebery whether the Members of the Legislative Bodies in Egypt receive salary, and, in addition, any other allowances (travelling, &c.).

In reply, I have the honour to place before your Lordship the following information, furnished by my Treasury colleague, with respect to the Legislative Council and the General Assembly, the only Legislative Bodies in this country.

The Legislative Council includes two classes of Members—

1. The President, the Vice-President, twelve permanent Members nominated by the Government, and the Delegate from the town of Cairo. They all reside in that town, and receive an allowance of £ E. 90 a-year for carriage expenses.

2. Fifteen Delegates, nominated by the provincial towns and by the provinces. They each receive an allowance of £ E. 250 a-year for dwelling expenses at Cairo. In

* Provincial towns.

† Provinces.

addition they receive a fixed sum, representing the travelling expenses of each Member (to and fro) once a-month, from their places of residence to Cairo.

These allowances and travelling expenses, for the two classes of Members of the Legislative Council, amount to a yearly sum of £ E. 5,387, and appear in the State Budget of 1893, under Caput II, Legislative Council, Article 3, Indemnities.

As regards the Members of the General Assembly, they have no right to any fixed allowance. But, when convoked, their railway expenses are repaid, and they receive, besides, an allowance for eight days' residence in Cairo at £ E. 1 a-day.

I trust that this information will meet the inquiry made by Lord Rosebery, and I place myself entirely at your disposal for any supplementary information.

Accept, &c.
(Signed) TIGRANE.

FRANCE.

No. 9.

The Marquis of Dufferin to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received April 24.)

My Lord,

Paris, April 21, 1893.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Memorandum, showing the payment and allowances made in France to Members of the Legislature.

I have, &c.
(Signed) DUFFERIN AND AVA.

Inclosure in No. 9.

Memorandum.

THE indemnity allotted to Senators and Deputies amounts to 9,000 fr. (360*l.*) per annum, from which a sum of 5 fr. (4*s.*) a-month is deducted for refreshments ("pour la buvette").

The members of the two Assemblies travel gratis and first class on all State railway lines.

To the other lines they pay a monthly subscription of 10 fr. (8*s.*), which gives them a personal right to travel first class throughout the year on every line.

The Presidents of the two Chambers receive, independently of the above-mentioned indemnity, an additional sum of 72,000 fr. (2,940*l.*) a-year for expenses of entertainment ("pour frais de représentation"). They are also lodged in the "Palais de la Présidence."

The functions of the Vice-Presidents and of the Secretaries are purely honorary.

The Questors* ("Questeurs"), of whom there are three in each Assembly, receive, in addition to the normal indemnity, a salary of 9,000 fr. per annum, and are further supplied with a suite of rooms, together with the necessary staff of servants.

GERMANY.

No. 10.

Sir E. Malet to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Berlin, March 17, 1893.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to inclose a short Memorandum, showing the practice in Germany and Prussia in regard to the payment of Members of the Legislature.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD B. MALET.

* These functionaries perform duties which in England are delegated to the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.

Memorandum.

THE Members of the Reichstag—the Imperial Legislature—receive no payment; but they have the privilege of free passes on German railways.

Article 32 of the German Constitution, which deals with this point, reads as follows:—

“Members of the Reichstag are not permitted, as such, to receive any payment or compensation for their services.”

Prussia.

Members of the Lower House of the Prussian Legislature (“Abgeordnetenhaus”) receive a maintenance allowance (“*Däten* or *Tagegelder*”) of 15s. per day during the Session. Besides this, their travelling expenses are defrayed.

These travelling expenses, including cost of luggage, are calculated as follows:—

1. For journeys which can be made by railway or steam-ship, at the rate of 13 pfennigs (1½d.) per kilometre, with an addition of 3s. for each arrival and departure.

2. For journeys which cannot be performed by rail or steam-boat, at the rate of 60 pfennigs (7½d.) per kilometre.

The total amount of maintenance allowances and travelling expenses of Members of the Prussian House of Deputies is calculated in the Budget for 1893-94 at about 40,000l.

It is not open to Members of the “Abgeordnetenhaus” to refuse either of these privileges.

(See annexed Law of the 24th July, 1876.)

Members of the Upper House of the Prussian Legislature (“*Herrenhaus*”) receive no payment, but are provided with free railway passes like the Members of the Reichstag.

Berlin, March 17, 1893.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Law respecting the Travelling Expenses and Maintenance Allowance of Members of the House of Deputies, July 24, 1876.

(Translation.)

WE, William, by the Grace of God, King of Prussia, &c., ordain, with the consent of both Houses of Parliament of the Monarchy, as follows:—

Only Article.—The Law of the 30th March, 1873, respecting the travelling expenses and maintenance allowance of Members of the House of Deputies shall be amended as follows:

Section 1. The travelling expenses and maintenance allowance due to Members of the House of Deputies shall be calculated according to the following scale:

1. Travelling expenses, including cost of luggage.

(1.) In journeys which can be made by railway or steam-ship, at the rate of 13 pfennigs per kilometre, with 3 marks for each arrival and departure.

(2.) In journeys which cannot be performed by rail or steam-boat, at the rate of 60 pfennigs per kilometre.

2. The maintenance allowance shall be at the rate of 15 marks per day.

SECT. 2. With regard to the calculation of travelling expenses, the Regulations in force respecting the travelling expenses of State officials shall apply.

Given under our hand and seal at Gastein, the 24th July, 1876.

(Signed)

WILLIAM.

(Signed)

PRINCE BISMARCK.
CAMPHAUSEN.
COUNT VU EULENBURG.
LEONHARDT.
FALK.
V. KAMMER.
ACHENBACH.
FRIEDENTHAL.
V. BÜLOW.
HOFMANN.

GREECE.

No. 11.

Mr. Egerton to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received April 3.)

My Lord,

Athens, March 28, 1893.

IN answer to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 16th instant, I have to state that the system of the payment of Members exists in Greece.

Article 75 of the Constitution is to the effect that Deputies who have exercised their functions will receive each ordinary Session 2,000 drachmas. In the case of an Extraordinary Session they will be, moreover, paid the cost of their journey to and from the capital.

Article 76 lays down that Deputies who receive civil or military pay will not receive more than the difference between that and the amount of the above remuneration.

Some years back, when the new drachma, nominally worth a franc, superseded the old drachma, the Deputies continued to be paid in the old drachma, of inferior value to the new.

Consequently, at present, the remuneration of the Greek Deputy amounts to 1,800 new drachmas, or francs, that is to say, 72*l.* per Session.

In the case of an Extraordinary Session, the remuneration depends on its length—it is usually about 40*l.* It is never less than 20*l.*, or more than 72*l.*

The Session must be formally closed to enable a fresh convocation of Members to be considered an Extraordinary Session.

This year, for instance, the Deputies have departed, and the year's Session is probably closed; but should they be called together again, their meeting would not constitute an Extraordinary Session.

There are absolutely no facilities granted for the travelling of the Members, such as free passes on the railways or steamers.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

GRAND DUCHY OF HESSE.

No. 12.

Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received April 4.)

My Lord,

Darmstadt, April 1, 1893.

IN accordance with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to report that in the Grand Duchy of Hesse the Members of both Chambers, whose seats are not held by right of birth, and whose residence is not within a distance of 2 miles from the seat of the Legislature, receive during the Session a daily allowance of 9*s.* to meet the expenses of their residence in the capital and the cost of their journeys to and from it.

In the Grand Duchy of Baden, the daily allowance granted to Members of the two Chambers who do not hold their seats by hereditary right is 12*s.*, while the actual cost of their journeys to and from the capital on the occasion of the meeting or prorogation of Parliament is refunded to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE W. BUCHANAN.

ITALY.

No. 13.

Lord Vivian to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 23.)

My Lord,

Rome, March 20, 1893.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to report that neither Members of the Italian Senate nor of the Chamber of Deputies receive, as such, any salary, allowance, or indemnity in any form or shape, but that they have the privilege of travelling throughout Italy by rail or by steamer free of expense.

I have, &c.

(Signed) VIVIAN.

NETHERLANDS.

No. 14.

Sir G. Bonham to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 23.)

My Lord,

The Hague, March 21, 1893.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Return showing the practice in the Netherlands with regard to the payment of Members of the Legislature.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. BONHAM.

Inclosure in No. 14.

Memorandum.

THE payment, or indemnity, as it is styled, of Members of the Second Chamber of the States-General in the Netherlands, was fixed by the Constitutional Law of 1848 at 2,000 florins (168*l.*) a-year. It is further enacted in Article 89 of that Law that Members who become Ministers, or who have been absent during the entire Session, will not receive this indemnity, but it is the almost invariable rule for Members when appointed Ministers to resign their seat in the States-General.

The rules relating to the travelling expenses and the allowance during residence ("verblijfkosten") of Members of the First Chamber, and the travelling expenses of Members of the Second Chamber, were revised by a Law of 1889. According to the provisions of this Law, Members of the First Chamber receive, when summoned to attend the sittings of the First Chamber at the Hague (or wherever the sittings may be held) or to sit on Committees, the expenses of the journey to the Hague from their place of residence in the country and back—consisting of a first-class fare by public conveyance and by the shortest route, with the necessary luggage, and for the use of special means of transport, if necessary. In order to satisfy legal requirements, a declaration has to be signed by the Member that the sum stated in the account agrees with the actual payments.

The allowance to Members of the First Chamber for attendance at meetings of the States-General during the Session and of Committees during a recess is 10 florins (16*s.* 8*d.*) a-day. This allowance is not paid to Members residing in the Hague.

Members of the Second Chamber receive travelling expenses on the same scale as Members of the First, but only once in each Session, i.e., once a-year.

Members of either Chamber residing at the Hague do not receive travelling expenses.

The estimates for this year comprise the following sums:—

For the Second Chamber, consisting of 100 Members: travelling expenses, 1,000 florins (83*l.*); salary or indemnity, 200,000 florins (16,666*l.*).

For the First Chamber, consisting of 50 Members: allowance during residence ("verhijfkesten") and travelling expenses, 26,000 florins (2,166*l.*).

The small amount for travelling expenses may be accounted for by the fact that a large proportion of Members of both Chambers reside at the Hague.

The Hague, February 21, 1893.

PORTUGAL.

No. 15.

Sir H. MacDonell to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received April 11.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, April 8, 1893.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to state that, in virtue of a Royal Decree of the 15th September, 1892, a translation of which is herewith inclosed, the payment of Members of the Chamber of Deputies, with the exception of those elected for the Colonies, who only number thirteen, was discontinued.

Every Deputy, however, is entitled to a free passage by the railways belonging to the State, and in any Government vessels when coming to Lisbon or on their departure from Lisbon in connection with their Parliamentary duties.

The Decree also provides that the Municipalities of the various electoral districts may grant a subsidy—the amount of which is not to exceed 3\$333 reis (1*l.* 10*d.*) per diem, as fixed in the Law of the 10th May, 1878—to any provincial Member who shall not reside in Lisbon, and whose means may absolutely require such subsidy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. MACDONELL.

Inclosure in No. 15.

Royal Decree.

(Translation.)

IN virtue of the authority conferred upon me in the 13th Article of the Law of the 26th February, 1892:*

I hereby decree:

Article 1. The Deputies to the Cortes of the Portuguese nation are to discharge their functions without remuneration.

They will, however, be allowed a free passage by the railways belonging to the State and in the Government ships, in connection with the discharge of their official duties.

Art. 2. The Municipalities of the various electoral districts are authorized to grant a subsidy to the Deputies who do not reside in the capital whenever the circumstances of those elected as Deputies should absolutely require it, provided the amount of such subsidy shall not exceed the sum recognized in the Laws in force.

Art. 3. All public officers who do not conjointly discharge their official duties and their legislative functions are only entitled to receive the official salary attached to their respective rank.

Art. 4. The Deputies for the Colonies residing in any of the transmarine possessions are not comprised in the provisions set forth in this Decree.

Art. 5. Any Laws contrary thereto are hereby revoked.

The President of the Council of Ministers, Minister and Secretary of State *ad interim* for the Home Department, and also Minister and Secretary of State for the Finance Department, shall accordingly carry this Decree into effect.

Given at the Palace, the 15th September, 1892.

(Countersigned)

JOSÉ DIAS FERREIRA.

(Signed)

THE KING.

* This Law authorized the Government in general to reduce the public expenditure.

ROUMANIA.

No. 16.

Mr. C. Hardinge to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 27.)

My Lord,

Bucharest, March 23, 1893.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 16th instant, I have the honour to report that, in accordance with the provisions of a Law of the 9th December, 1884, the Members of both Legislative Houses in Roumania receive a daily indemnity of 25 fr. (1l.) during the time that the Chambers are sitting. They have, however, no claim to the same when absent with or without leave, except in cases of illness, when they are entitled to payment up to fifteen days only. Should, however, a Member of either House be appointed to serve as a Delegate on a public Commission during the time of Session, the daily allowance is still continued, provided that he receives no further payment for serving on the Commission.

Both Senators and Deputies are entitled *ex officio* to free passes on all railways in Roumania, as well as to their travelling expenses where posting is obligatory.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES HARDINGE.

SAXE-COBURG AND GOTHA.

No. 17.

Mr. Stephen to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received April 11.)

My Lord,

Coburg, April 8, 1893.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour to report that, by a Law dated the 20th May, 1876, Members of the Legislature in the Duchies of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha are entitled to receive the following allowances while attending the sittings of the Landtag:—

(a.) Members residing at Coburg or Gotha, 6s. a-day.

(b.) Members living in the country, 10s. a-day, with an additional travelling allowance of a second-class fare, and 3s. for incidental expenses if residing near a railway, or an allowance at the rate of 1s. a-mile if obliged to drive.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. CONDIE STEPHEN.

SAXONY.

No. 18.

Mr. Strachey to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 27.)

My Lord,

Dresden, March 21, 1893.

MEMBERS of the Landtag of Saxony receive a daily allowance of 12 marks (12s.) during the Parliamentary Session. No payment is made on account of days when Members are absent without leave of the House. First-class tickets for free passage over the railways of the kingdom during the duration of the Session are issued to Members.

In the case of the Upper Chamber, the representatives of certain houses of the mediatised nobility, with some others, are excluded from the pecuniary grant.

The Sessions of the Saxon Legislature are biennial, and they have an average duration of four or five months.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. STRACHEY.

SERVIA.

No. 19.

Mr. Fane to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 31.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, March 24, 1893.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to forward herewith a Memorandum which has been drawn up by Mr. Leveson Gower, showing to what extent the payment of Members of the Legislature obtains in Servia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND FANE.

Inclosure in No. 19.

Memorandum.

ARTICLE 128 of the Servian Constitution provides that the Members of the Skupschtina shall receive from the State funds a daily allowance for subsistence while the Skupschtina is in session, and also an allowance for travelling expenses. The amount of these allowances, however, is to be fixed, not by a simple vote of the Skupschtina, but by legislation.

In order to carry out the above provision of the Constitution, it is enacted as follows in Clause 95 of the Law on "the Election of Deputies" of the 25th March, 1890:—

"Each Member of the Skupschtina shall receive, during the time that the Chamber is in session, a daily allowance from the State funds of 10 fr. This allowance shall, however, be reduced to 5 fr. in the case of Members who are State employés or State pensioners, and who live on the spot where the Skupschtina holds its Sessions.

"Members who do not reside in the place where the Skupschtina holds its sessions shall receive a further allowance for travelling expenses according to the length of their journey by time, at the rate of 3 fr. an-hour."

The names of Members are called over at each meeting of the Skupschtina, the names of Members absent are reported to the President, and such Members do not receive the daily allowance.

(Signed)

ARTHUR F. G. LEVESON GOWER.

Belgrade, March 24, 1893.

SPAIN.

No. 20.

Sir H. Drummond Wolff to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 24.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 21, 1893.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, inquiring whether the Representatives elected to the Spanish Senate and House of Deputies receive pay or allowance for their services, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that such Representatives in this country do not receive any salary or allowances whatever.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. DRUMMOND WOLFF.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

No. 21.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord,

Stockholm, March 27, 1893.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to furnish a statement showing how payment of Members of the Swedish Riksdag is arranged and what travelling privileges they enjoy.

I have not yet received the Report which I have asked Mr. Michell to furnish in regard to the mode of payment awarded to the Members of the Norwegian Storting.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure in No. 21.

Memorandum.

THE Swedish Riksdag consists of two Chambers—

Members of the First Chamber receive no payment whatever, nor are any special privileges granted to them in regard to travelling.

Members of the Second Chamber receive an allowance of 1,200 kronor (66l. 13s.) for each ordinary Session. This commences on the 15th January, and closes almost invariably between the 15th and 25th May. The Session has, however, been known to continue into June. Members receive nothing more for such a prolongation, nor would anything be deducted if the Session happened to be shorter. Members are liable to be fined 10 kronor (11s.) for any day they fail to attend in the Chamber, unless they have previously asked for and obtained leave of absence. Practically, leave of absence is seldom refused, and this fine may be regarded as non-existent.

The actual amount expended by a Member of the Second Chamber in the journey to Stockholm at the opening of the Session and his return at its close is refunded, but he must himself defray the expenses of journeys he may have to make backwards or forwards at other times. He has no other pecuniary allowances whatever, nor does he enjoy any special advantages on railways or steamers.

In case the King summons an extra Session, the Members of the Second Chamber receive 10 kronor (11s.) a-day for each day that the Session lasts, as well as the amount of their travelling expenses once to Stockholm and back.

All travelling expenses are calculated first class with luggage, but without food or a servant.

F. R. P.

No. 22.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received April 4.)

My Lord,

Stockholm, March 31, 1893.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 27th instant, I have the honour to forward herewith the Report which I have received from Mr. Michell on the system of payments made to Members in the Norwegian Storting.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure in No. 22.

Report on the Remuneration of Members of the Norwegian Storthing, by T. Michell, C.B.

THE Members of the Norwegian Storthing receive the following emoluments:—

1. Travelling expenses for their journey to and from the Storthing, according to a scale fixed by a Law of the 3rd June, 1874.

They do not receive free passes for the State railways, for steamers, &c., but a cash allowance per kilometre travelled, which more than covers the expense of railway or steam-ship fares, or the posting rates with horses.

2. Subsistence ("compensation for board and lodging") at the rate of 12 kronor (13s. 4d.) per diem during their presence at the Storthing, holidays included, and 10 kronor (11s. 1d.) per diem for their travelling expenses to and from the Storthing.

3. Compensation allowance for nursing and medical treatment in case of sickness while travelling to or from the Storthing, or while attending its Sessions. If a Member dies, the State Exchequer defrays the cost of his burial.

In the course of time, the privilege of an allowance for "nursing and medical treatment" often became the object of a somewhat free and elastic interpretation on the part of Members.

Thus, it is a well-known fact that, under that privilege, Members have made the State Treasury pay for their baths, more or less "medical," for courses of gymnastics or massage, for inhalation processes, for medical comforts ("wine for the sick"), for the drawing and stopping of teeth, &c.

However, the derisive exposure of such cases in the press (with full publicity as to the claimants of such privileges) has of late been of considerable effect.

Since 1887, when the question was widely discussed in the public journals, there has not been much ground for complaint in this respect.

The aggregate allowances made to Members of the Storthing since 1875 are shown in the following Table:—

TABLE showing the Payments made to Members of the Norwegian Storthing between 1875 and 1892.

Year.	Duration of Session.		Number of Members.	Total Payments to Members.	Payments to Members.	
	Months.	Days.			Average per Member.	Per Diem (about).
1875	4	11	111	£ 11,405*	£ s. d. 102 14 0	s. d. 15 6
1880	4	22	114	12,287	107 12 0	15 2
1885	4	17	114	11,928	104 12 0	15 1
1890	4	8	114	18,468	118 3 0	18 5
1891	5	17	114	18,290†	118 11 0	18 11
1892	6	..	114	15,155‡	132 19 0	14 9

* The Norwegian kronor have been converted into sterling at the rate of 16 kronor = 1l.

† Travelling expenses	£ 598
Subsistence	12,532
Medical attendance	160
	15,290
‡ Travelling expenses	£ 595
Subsistence	14,390
Medical attendance	170
	15,155

TABLE showing the composition of the Norwegian Storting in 1893.

Occupations as officially returned.	Number of Members.
Peasants (yeomen), proprietors, and farmers	33
Officials, higher (Prefects, ex-Ministers, bank directors and managers, &c.)	16
Rebills (parish constables)	11
Lawyers, Judges, &c.	10
Schoolmasters, teachers, &c.	9
Clergymen	6
Church choristers (who are also schoolmasters)	5
Merchants, traders, agents	4
Ship-owners	4
Managers, overseers, foremen, &c.	3
Manufacturers (2), engineer (1)	3
Medical men	3
Journalists	3
Landed proprietors (gentry)	2
Chemist	1
Door-keeper (custodian)	1
Joiner	1
Total	114

Abstract of Article in "Morgenblad," March 26, 1893.

(Translation.)

WHEN annual Sessions of the Storting were introduced in 1868-69 in lieu of Sessions only once in three years, and which lasted nine to ten months, it was considered that three or four months would be sufficient for the transaction of all business.

Between 1871-77, however, the Sessions were steadily extended from three and a-half to four months; and between 1878 and 1883, to four and two-third months.

The succeeding Sessions were shorter, but in 1892 the Storting was dissolved on the 1st August, after a Session of six months.

The duration of the Sessions has, therefore, a tendency to increase.

The cost to the country of such long Sessions here cited by the "Morgenblad" is shown in the Table annexed to this Report.

The worst of it, however, is, that the length of the Sessions deprives the Storting of the best forces in the country. Men in active occupation, and who, in the school of life, have learnt to know the condition of the country and its people, are compelled to keep aloof from public life, and to resign, to men who make politics a means of livelihood, the seats which they would have filled with credit to themselves and with advantage to the country. And these politicians have no interest in pushing on work in the Storting, and in reducing the length of the Sessions.

For them, the principal thing is their remuneration and their life in the Storting Chamber and lobbies. This is to them a road to dignity and power, and to good posts as Auditors of the Public Accounts, paid Delegates to Peace Congresses, Members of Commissions, and to offices of various other kinds.

Members of Committees have to seek for aid outside the Storting, either because they do not possess the necessary knowledge, or cannot find the time to do the work themselves.

When the reform was made in 1868-69, the subsistence allowances to Members should have been limited to a certain sum.

Several notices of motions to that effect have been brought before the Storting, but in its present composition, there is no hope of such an alteration being passed by a sufficient majority.

Consul-General Michell to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received April 20.)

My Lord,

Christiania, April 17, 1893.

WITH reference to the Memorandum I transmitted on the 29th March last through Her Majesty's Minister at Stockholm, I have the honour to report that on the 14th instant five distinct motions, and the numerous "alternatives" attached to them for the limitation of the payments made to Members, were rejected in the Storting by majorities more or less large.

A motion by M. Bang in favour of retaining the present scale of payment, but for a period not exceeding 135 days, gained the largest number of votes, namely, 42 against 60. A proposal to limit the period to 120 days obtained 36 votes, while another, practically to the same effect as M. Bang's, secured 36 supporters.

Proposals for the reduction of the daily subsistence allowance to 10 kronor (from 12 kronor) and to 5 kronor, with a fee of 1,000 kronor (about £5L) for each Session, together with various other scales of fixed remuneration, were rejected by large majorities.

The long Sessions and the present scale of payment to the Members were defended with more than usual frankness and determination by the party of the Left.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. MICHELL.

SWITZERLAND.

No. 24.

Mr. F. R. St. John to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received March 23.)

My Lord,

Berne, March 20, 1893.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 15th instant, I have the honour to state that there is no privilege of free passes on Swiss railways for Members of the Legislature. Their travelling expenses for the double journey, undertaken once only in each Session, are calculated at the rate of 20 centimes (2d.) per kilometre of the distance between their habitual place of residence and the capital. They receive, moreover, while the Chambers sit, the sum of 20 fr. (16s.) for every day on which they have answered the roll-call at the beginning of the sitting.

Members of the "States Assembly" (Senate) are thus remunerated by their respective Cantons, while the Federal Government remunerates Members of the "National Assembly" (House of Deputies).

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. R. ST. JOHN.

P.S.—A similar arrangement obtains in the case of Members attending Special or Standing Committees.

F. R. ST. J.

UNITED STATES.

No. 25.

Sir J. Pouncefote to the Earl of Rosebery.—Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Washington, May 2, 1893.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 16th March last, I have the honour to inclose herewith a Return, for presentation to Parliament, showing the

salary and allowances granted to the Members of the two Houses of Congress of the United States.

I have also the honour to inclose a copy of the latest book of estimates of appropriations and a copy of the latest legislative Appropriation Act, which have been furnished to me by the Secretary of State in connection with the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 25.

Memorandum.

THE compensation of each Senator, Representative, and Delegate in Congress is 5,000 dollars per annum, of the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate, who is also Vice-President of the United States, 8,000 dollars each per annum.

The salaries are paid monthly, those of Representatives and Delegates on certificates approved by the Speaker of the House, and those of Senators on the approval of the President of the Senate.

Mileage is paid at the rate of 20 cents per mile, to be estimated by the nearest route travelled in going to and returning from each Session. Mileage accounts of Senators are certified by the President of the Senate, and those of Representatives and Delegates by the Speaker of the House.

An additional annual allowance of 125 dollars each for stationery and newspapers is also made to Members of both branches of Congress.

There is no law of the United States giving the privilege of free passes on railways to Members of Congress.

Inclosure 2 in No. 25.

House of Representatives, 52nd Congress, 2nd Session: Ex. Doc. No. 5.

"Letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting Estimates of Appropriations required for the Service of the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1894."

Inclosure 3 in No. 25.

"An Act making Appropriations for the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Expenses of the Government for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1894, and for other purposes."